

longest because they were too unmanageable, and found the scapes to be 40, 42, 43, 44 and 45 inches, and the spikes 17, 18, 19, 21 and 22 inches in length. The branches of the spikes ran from three to ten in number and were from one to two inches in length. These branches nearly always forked again, making quite a dense brush on the end of the spike. The outermost, that is the lowest, branches invariably forked, the others not always. Occasionally it looked as if the original spike had been bitten or broken off and the lateral buds developed into branches to compensate for the loss of the terminal bud. But such arrest of the growth of the terminal bud could not always be made out, and in some specimens it was undoubtedly not the case.—J. M. C.

NOTES FROM WEST VIRGINIA.—During a trip up into West Virginia the first two weeks in July, made for the purpose of botanizing, I found on the banks of the Guyandotte River, near Barboursville, specimens of *Oleome pungens* growing wild. There were between 75 and 100 plants growing in a clump and a few others scattered along. They stood about half way between the water and the river bank, on the top of which was an old deserted house. It was about 50 or 75 feet from the plants and no sign of a garden, or, indeed, of any cultivated ground, was visible around it. They seemed to be perfectly naturalized and were growing finely. As this locality is within the limits of Gray's Manual, the plant deserves a place in that work. I am also informed by Mr. Lloyd, of Covington, that he found a patch of the same plant growing wild near the line of the Cincinnati Southern R. R., a few miles back of Covington.

On the top of the Hawk's Nest, on New River, I found a number of plants of *Coccyza Conradii*, but not in bloom, and *Cheilanthes lanuginosa*. Gray's Manual gives the habitat of the latter as Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and westward, and if I am not mistaken in the species, the Mountains of Virginia will have to be added.

*Cuphea viscosissima* was found in an old field just above the Hawk's Nest.—JOSEPH F. JAMES, *Cincinnati, O.*

VARIATIONS.—I have found the White Pine with leaves in sixes, some few fascicles in sevens. The sixes were quite abundant. The *Arisaema Dracontium*, Schott., is quite common here with leaflets from 15 to 17, and I have found one with 22 leaflets. The running blackberry is also frequent with flowers quite double and of a pinkish tinge.—N. COLEMAN.

CUSCUTA RACEMOSA.—In the January number of the GAZETTE, Dr. Engelmann gave a warning to the farmers, who wished to cultivate the Alfalfa, or California clover, to beware of the dodder, *Cuscuta racemosa*, which had always accompanied it in Europe and California. The warning was sent, throughout this region, to the county papers, but in spite of it all, seed agents have succeeded in running in a great deal of Alfalfa seed. As a consequence, a short time ago, after the clover had started well, I began to receive specimens of the plant encircled by a "troublesome little vine," and every body wanted to know what it was. It was the genuine *Cuscuta racemosa* in good flower and fruit, and it has come up in every Alfalfa field in this county. The agricultural editors of several widely circulated papers are recommending it and doing what they can to bring this annoying parasite into our fields.—J. M. C.

JEFFERSONIA DIPHYLLA, Pers.—In the vicinity of Hanover, Ind., this interesting plant may be found during the months of March and April, bedecking all the river hills with a profusion of bloom. As it is so abundant on the Ohio bluffs, one would naturally expect to find it abundantly in as favorable localities back from the river, but as yet none have been found except a very few specimens in a single little thicket. Were *Jeffersonia* local along the river its absence from other parts of the county would not